

WILSON'S ENVOY IS IN FRANCE

Col. House Goes to Europe
As Personal Representative
of President.

TRIP CONNECTED
WITH ARMISTICE

Accompanied By Sir William Benson, Chief of
Naval Operations.

Washington, Oct. 25.—Col. E. M. House, personal representative of President Wilson and spokesman of the State Department, and Admiral William S. Benson, chief of the naval operations, have arrived in France to represent the United States in the consideration of Germany's plea for an armistice and peace negotiations.

Washington, Oct. 25.—Col. House, President Wilson's confidential adviser, was sent to Europe as the personal representative of the President on an official mission. This announcement was authorized officially, but further information is withheld.

It is understood, however, that the visit of Col. House to Europe at this time is connected with Germany's plea for an armistice and peace, which now is before the Allied governments for decision. Colonel House very probably is authorized to represent the President in discussions with the representatives of the allied governments.

The fact that Colonel House left for Europe several days before President Wilson's final reply to Germany was dispatched is further proof that every step of the President's negotiations with Germany has been taken in full accord with the entire government. It also is taken to indicate that decision to transmit the German plea to the Allied powers under conditions was reached even before the last note from Berlin was received.

Col. House long has been recognized as the logical selection by the President to represent him in such cases as now are to be held. He has made frequent trips to Europe since the war began in 1914, conferring with leaders in the leading belligerent nations and more than a year ago he was charged by the President with gathering data for use of the peace conference. Much of it has been assembled at the headquarters of the American Geographical Society in New York and on his last trip to that city after the first German note was received President Wilson examined the data in company with Col. House.

COLE APPOINTS POST SURGEONS FOR THIS COUNTY

Adjutant-General George M. Cole has appointed the following post surgeons to determine exemptions from military duty by the standard of disability prescribed by the surgeon-general:

Fairfield county—Charles E. Hyde, Bridgeport; David B. Watson, Bridgeport; Paul U. Sunderland, Danbury; John A. Clarke, Greenwich; C. B. Keeler, New Canaan; Ernest H. Smith, Redding; Lauren M. Allen, South Norwalk; William T. Godfrey, Stamford; Frederick Schaviner, Stamford; Raymond R. Gandy, Stamford. Between the ages of 18 and 45 years, between the ages of 14 and 45 years, desiring exemptions from military duty by reason of mental or physical disability, must report to one of the post surgeons for examination, and if found exempt will be furnished with a certificate of exemption, to be filed by them with the selection of the town in which they are liable to enrollment; those who are exempted by post surgeons in any year since 1900, and the disability classed as permanent and who are now living in the same town will not be required to be examined again, unless by order of the surgeon-general. Those who neglect to file their certificates of exemption with the selection before the first day of February, 1919, will be debarred from exemption for the year.

In another order General Cole lists the disabilities as follows: The following disabilities for exemption from military duty, prescribed by the surgeon-general are hereby promulgated in accordance with Section 10, Chapter 11, Public Acts of the State of Connecticut, January Session, 1917, being an act concerning the militia: Insanity, epilepsy, mental aberration, loss of sight of an eye, or permanent defect of one or both eyes, loss of hearing, loss of speech, loss of an arm or leg, or any other injury or disease which incapacitates for manual labor. Selection can only exempt on certificates of post surgeons.

Post surgeons will not make examinations, nor give certificates for exemptions previous to October 1, 1918, or later than January 31, 1919.

ANARCHISTS ARE SENTENCED

New York, Oct. 25.—Five avowed anarchists, convicted of circulating anti-government literature, including pamphlets urging munitions workers to go on strike, were sentenced to confinement in prison in the Federal court here today. Three of them were given 20-year terms, a fourth, who turned state's evidence, was committed for three years, and the fifth, a woman, for 16 years.

Wilson Asks People For Democratic House And Senate Republican Leaders Are Pro-War, But Anti-Administration

Washington, Oct. 25.—President Wilson today issued an appeal to the people to return a Democratic Congress in the November elections if they approve of his course in this critical period.

Return of a Republican majority to either House of the Congress, the President said, "would be certainly interpreted on the other side of the water as repudiation of my leadership."

The President said he would accept the country's verdict without cavil, but that if it was adverse, the power to administer the great trust assigned to him would be seriously impaired.

Following is the President's appeal:—"My fellow countrymen:—The Congressional elections are at hand. They occur in the most critical period our country has ever faced, or is likely to face in our time. If you have approved of my leadership and wish me to continue to be an unembarrassed spokesman in affairs at home and abroad, I earnestly beg that you will express yourselves unmistakably to that effect by returning a Democratic majority to both the Senate and House of Representatives."

"I am your servant and will accept your judgment without cavil, but my power to minister the great trust assigned to me by the constitution would be seriously impaired should your judgment be adverse, and I must frankly tell you so because so many criticisms depend upon your acts. Your taste must not in grim times like these be allowed to stand in the way of speaking the plain truth."

"I have no thought of suggesting that any political party is paramount in matters of patriotism? I feel too deeply the sacrifices which have been made in this war by all our citizens irrespective of party affiliations to harbor such an idea. I mean only that the difficulties of our present task are of a sort that makes it imperative necessary that the nation should give its undivided support to the government under a unified leadership and that a Republican Congress would divide the leadership."

CROWDS FORM BEFORE REICHSTAG DEMAND WILLIAM'S DOWNFALL

Paris, Oct. 25.—An enormous crowd assembled before the Reichstag building in Berlin yesterday calling for the abdication of Emperor William and the formation of a republic, according to a despatch from Zurich to L'Information, Dr. Karl Liebknecht, the Socialist leader who has just been released from prison, was applauded frantically. He was compelled to enter a carriage filled with flowers from which he made a speech declaring the time of the people had arrived.

Basen, Oct. 25.—Comment on President Wilson's latest note to the Germans is beginning to appear in German papers. The National Zeitung of Berlin says:

"President Wilson has answered quickly. Well, if ever Emperor William's invocation that God be with him is in season, it is right now." The Neuste, of Berlin says: "In spite of everything we feel that this answer brings us nearer peace."

Copenhagen, Oct. 25.—The German Reichstag has given Prince Maximilian, the Imperial Chancellor a vote of confidence, the ballot standing 193 to 52, according to Berlin despatches received here. Twenty-three of the members did not vote.

CAMOUFLAGE SUIT FOR U. S. SNIPERS ON WEST FRONT

Behind the American Lines in France, Oct. 25.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—The American sniper wears a fantastic suit of green burp with tufts of raffa, or Madras grass, sewed thickly all over the coats and trousers. The coat has a headpiece with eyeholes so that the sniper's head is completely enveloped. American troops in the Vosges have used these camouflage suits with great effect. The grass-covered burp is merged into the grass through which the sniper crawls and even when only 25 feet distant his presence cannot be detected.

The "disappearing buildings" is one of the curious contrivances of the camouflage artists here. The building is the size of a two-story frame cottage. Viewed close at hand it stands out plainly enough, and even at 100 feet the cottage is quite clear. But at the distance from the enemy observations would be made, or from an airplane at 8,000 feet, the building does in fact "disappear." This is done by the painting in great wavy lines of green and brown which, at a distance, obliterate the straight lines of roof, gable, windows and doors, and transform the whole structure into a blur of green-brown color which blends into the grass and ground.

"That is the director of properties for David Belasco," said the scout, as we passed a soldier. This disclosed that, besides the artists of this camouflage coloring, there are well known actors, stage managers, scene painters, property directors and cinema artists.

The actors gave a show the other night for the women workers. There was a camouflage chariot race, camouflage gladiators, and camouflage lions and tigers. One of the camouflage tigers looked so real that it nearly caused a panic when it got down among the women.

Colonel Benjamin's camouflage force, besides the 900 people here, has 250 more along the front—15 men and an officer with each American division erecting camouflage devices and putting into use dummies and decoys.

Two of the camouflage forces at the front have been killed. Sergeant Ernest A. Herter, son of a well known interior decorator of New York, and Lieut. Harry Thrasher, an American sculptor, who fell as the Americans were hammering their way into flames.

"The leaders of the minority in present Congress have unquestionably been pro-war, but they have been anti-administration. At almost every turn since we entered the war they have sought to seek the choice of policy and the conduct of the war out of my hands and put it under the control of instrumentalities of their own choosing."

"This is no time either for divided council or for divided leadership; unity of command is as necessary now in civil action as it is upon the field of battle. If the control of the House and the Senate should be taken away from the party now in power an opposing majority could assume control of legislation and oblige all action to obstruction."

"The return of a Republican majority to either House of the Congress would, moreover, be interpreted on the other side of the water as a repudiation of my leadership. Spokesmen of the Republican party are urging you to elect a Republican Congress in order to back up and support the President but even if they should do this, they would impose on no one on the other side of the water. It is well understood there, as well as here, that the Republican leaders desire not so much to support the President as to control him."

"I need not tell you my fellow countrymen, that I am asking your support, not for my own sake or for the sake of a political party, but for the sake of the nation itself that its inward unity of purpose may be evident to all the world. In ordinary times I would not feel at liberty to make such an appeal to you. In ordinary times divided counsels can be endured without permanent hurt to the country. But these are not ordinary times."

"If in these critical days it is your wish to sustain me with undivided minds I beg that you will say so in a way which it will not be possible to misunderstand either here at home, or among our associates on the other side of the sea."

"I submit my difficulties and my hopes to you."
"WOODROW WILSON."

SIEGEL APPEALS TO GERMAN PEOPLE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF DEMOCRACY

(By Franz Siegel)
Bulgaria's surrender breaks the line of the Central Powers and converts our unshakable faith in final victory for democracy into a certainty of its early attainment.

At this fateful moment in the history of the German people, I, as an American citizen of German race, feel impelled to raise my voice and appeal to the democratic and liberty-loving elements of the German people to make a determined effort to rid themselves of the rulers who have enslaved them, and who are tormenting the rest of the world.

The masses in Germany should listen eagerly to a voice which comes from among the ranks of German-Americans. In the past we have defended what was good in the German people at the risk of our own Republic. We could take this risk because by word and deed we have been faithful to the ideals of the American people. We have always felt sure that the love of liberty and justice has not died out of the hearts of Germans and that when the time comes we can rely upon this sentiment in their breasts to exert itself. While particularly condemning the Hohenzollerns as the authors of the world crime we did not lose faith in the men of German blood nor did our newspapers and statesmen have misrepresented him.

We know that the Junker leaders and press have persistently described President Wilson as a hypocrite. That false cry has totally deceived many Germans. Is it not time they should open their ears to better and wiser counsels? Many of them know in their hearts that President Wilson has an irreproachable record in the annals of democracy. He is our voice, the voice of the common people of our Republic, including those of German extraction. Our people desire a just and democratic peace, not a compromise with Prussian militarism. If the German people will listen to us, if they trust him, they will be trusting us. We do not desire the annihilation of Germany. What we do desire is that the German masses shall take political power into their own hands and establish a government which shall be responsible only to themselves. Only with such a German government can the United States deal, and thus pave the way for an early, honorable and lasting peace.

If the Germans do not wish to meet the fate of an utterly defeated and discredited people, this is the time for them to awake and seize the opportunity given to them. This is the critical hour of German liberty. The Hohenzollerns and the Junkers must pass into history and the Junkers must have no part in the free Germany of the future. The days following 1815 and 1848, days of promises unfulfilled and hopes of popular free government killed and crushed under the heel of militarism and Kaiserism must not be repeated.

In appealing to the German people, we German-Americans act from motives of self-interest as well as out of sympathy for our racial brothers, for if the German government remains autocratic, militaristic and despotic, it will endanger free institutions throughout the world. The moment the common people rise and seize the reins of government, they will have laid a secure foundation for peace and rehabilitation of their own honor and good name.

GENERAL DIAZ CAPTURES 1,000; HAIG STARTS DRIVE ON MAUBERGE; SIX FLANDERS TOWNS RETAKEN

London, Oct. 25.—More than 1,000 Austrians were taken prisoners in three successful attacks by the Allies on the Italian front, the Rome War Office announced.

South of Asiago, Italian and French troops captured the peak of Mont Sismon, a hotly contested eminence during the last Austrian offensive and penetrated deeply into the Austrian lines. Here 700 men and 23 officers were captured.

To the east of Asiago, British troops aided the Italians in that sector storming Austrian trenches. The attack netted 214 prisoners.

In raids elsewhere 100 prisoners were taken.

British and American troops resumed their blows south of Valenciennes, crossing the Escaillon river and capturing three towns. These operations, in view of almanacs' reports that the Germans have practically evacuated Valenciennes, presage a new drive by Haig with Mauberge and Mons about 14 miles to the east, as its objective.

The attack involved the whole front between the Sambre-Oise Canal and the Scheldt.

Continuing their progress on this front yesterday evening, the South of Valenciennes British troops crossed the Escaillon river less than two miles west of Le Quesnoy, capturing the village of Beaudignies. The villages of Neuville and Selesches also were occupied. A strong German counter-attack opposite Vendigies was repulsed.

Raismes Forest, north of Valenciennes, was cleared of the enemy and three villages were captured in that region. There was local fighting west of Tournai without material change.

An American division hammered

BRITISH BOMB HUN GAS PLANTS AND GUN SHOPS

London, Oct. 25.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—The Badische poison gas plant at Mannheim, in the Rhine valley, is a favorite object for "strafing" by the British aircraft. Three consecutive raids upon it by night have extensively damaged it. The raiders' bombs partly destroyed the sulphuric acid and nitric vitriol factory and the aniline department. Other buildings of the plant were wrecked.

The other factories at Mannheim have been heavily bombed eleven times. A heavy death roll has attended numerous air attacks on Cologne and Coblenz where the Germans are being heavily repaid in their own coin for their murderous work on London and Paris. The factories and railway station at Saarbrücken have been bombed ten times by the British; Karlsruhe, five times; Frankfurt-on-the-Rhine, three times; Stuttgart, and Zwestbrücken, twice.

Most of the air attacks in the Rhine provinces have been directed against the key railway centers, notably those at Thionville and Metz-Sablon. The famous railway triangle at Metz-Sablon and the junction at Thionville have been raided 37 times. Photographs taken by the attacking aircraft confirm the extent and magnitude of the damage done.

War traffic through Metz-Sablon has been materially reduced as a result of the frequent raids at a time when quick and regular transport of munitions was vital to Germany's military needs.

The big industrial centers on the Rhine contain, in addition to important railway junctions, some of the largest munition, poison gas and electrical plants in Western Germany. These military objectives have been attacked repeatedly with marked effect.

American Soldier Impresses French

Behind the Lines in France, Oct. 25.—The American soldier is a source of continued interest to the troops of the other nations with whom he is fighting side by side, and to the people of France. They have been vastly impressed by the wholehearted way in which he carries out his duties. On parade and on their arch he regards his work with the utmost seriousness, and every American column that passes leaves an impression of set, resolute faces very different from the nonchalant attitude of the British Tommy. In his moment of repose the "Yank" as he is called appears where in France, looks for a building with a short flight of steps to the door, foregoes there with his friends, and eats nuts and chocolates in prodigious quantities.

Of an evening the "Yanks" regimental band plays to him. The sections are not just stuff, but they cheer the tired soldier amazingly. Perhaps a couple of soldiers will jump up and do a one-step together up and down the sidewalk.

BUILDING IS NOW MUCH CURTAILED

Hartford, Oct. 25.—Samuel Ferguson, State Director of Non-War Construction, yesterday issued a statement correcting what he considered to be a misunderstanding by the public of the scope of the non-war construction program of the Federal War Industries Board. There seemed to be an impression in some quarters, said Mr. Ferguson, that it was not necessary to secure building permits if the proposed construction was to cost under \$2,500.

"Except in the case of farm buildings costing less than \$1,000, no new construction whatever can be done without a permit," Mr. Ferguson said. "This applies not only to buildings but to new construction work of every type, including sidewalks, sewer, water, gas and electric construction and municipal improvements of all kinds. The \$2,500 exemption applies solely to repairs."

COUNT ANDRASSY REPLACES BURIAN

Basel, Oct. 25.—Emperor Charles, according to a Budapest dispatch has accepted the resignation of Baron Burian, the Austrian-Hungarian foreign minister, and also of the Hungarian cabinet headed by Dr. Wekerle. Count Julius Andrássy, a Hungarian statesman, has been appointed to succeed Baron Burian.

PERSHING DECORATES THAW.

New York, Oct. 25.—Word was received at the Aero Club of America yesterday that Gen. Pershing had awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, with two citations, to Major William Thaw, American ace and known as the dean of American aviators in France.

This is the first American award received by Major Thaw, who has received several French decorations, among them the Croix de Guerre and the Medal of the Legion of Honor. Those awards were in recognition of Major Thaw's exploits as a member of the Lafayette Escadrille before he entered the American service.

Major Thaw's younger brother, Lieut. Alexander Blair Thaw, was killed in France in August.

RELEASE BELGIAN PRISONERS.

Washington, Oct. 25.—Release of all Belgian political prisoners held in Belgium or in Germany except where a military menace would result has been promised by General von Falkhausen. This became known here today in connection with news that Burgomaster Max of Brussels had been set free.

SIR ERIC GEDDES SAFE.

Washington, Oct. 25.—Sir Eric Geddes, first lord of the British Admiralty, has arrived safely in London returning from his special mission to the United States with members of the admiralty staff.

resemble a great lake. It is not probable that the city can be approached from the southwest because of similar flooded conditions.

CROSS COUNTRY MAIL CARRYING BY MOTOR TRUCK

Experiment of Post Office
Dept. During Last Year
Was Success.

SOURCE OF REVENUE ON MANY ROUTES

Better Roads Needed But
System Will Produce the
Revenue for Construction

Washington, Oct. 25.—Cross-country operation of mail carrying motor trucks, tried out by the postoffice department on an experimental basis, has been a great success. James I. Blakeslee, fourth assistant postmaster general, has found that one truck route between Philadelphia and Washington, cutting chiefly through territory without direct rail connection and costing \$850 a month to operate, has in eight months developed a revenue of \$15,000 monthly.

Another route, into Washington, where 23 parcels a day were moved during the first month, now shows one ton of traffic each way each 24 hours.

Seventy lines now operate over the country, all but one east of the Mississippi, and there are visions of a system which will furnish \$550,000,000 annually in revenue for road construction or other purposes.

"Why, General Pershing has 9,000 trucks damaged or ruined over on the other side," said Mr. Blakeslee, telling of the growth of the system. "I don't care what condition they are in. We want them all, and can fix up and put every one of them to work. What's even more important, he's got some boys over there shy a hand, or an arm, or a leg, and we can use them all, too, in good work at good pay, which they can do. Congress gave us \$300,000 to work with, and if we had the earnings of the lines themselves, we could expand almost indefinitely. As it is, \$9,000,000 will be requested by the division for next year, and I think it will be appropriated. People realize what we are doing."

"Operating at night is the most profitable, and we have but two machines doing that, out of New York. The typical route is about 180 miles long, 30 miles out, and 30 miles back."

"Almost always the constant operation of the lines produces a return load, the universal character of the mail service allowing almost anything to be taken. The mail trucks go, come rain, storm, or anything, and so the traffic develops. Rates are also pretty high, the lowest being about \$20 a ton. That is what makes the surplus revenue."

"Need Concrete Roads." "Of course, we'll have to have concrete roads, but the business can produce the money to build them. There are some economies in distribution of produce that are simply amazing. It has added an entirely new factor to transcontinental transportation, and we shall just begin finding it out when more extensive operation goes into effect during the next two years."

Just why Mr. Blakeslee sees it that way can be understood from just one commodity price list. Milk retails now in Washington at 17 cents a quart. Milk is coming in on mail trucks direct to consumers for 10 cents a quart. Naturally the trucks are being weighed down with five-gallon cans as consumers learn of the possibility. The trucks take milk-producing territory, outside the usual hauling lines, and off the rail arteries.

"Where'll the roads come from to run 9,000 trucks?" he asks. "Well, there are 65,000 rural mail and star routes being operated in the United States now. Sometimes I think everyone of them would make a truck line. Food is being handled 10 times on its way to a consumer. We can cut that to five."

"Watching these figures, since December, when we started, has given me a new sort of inspiration. We shall be moving the mails and mails will include a whole unexpected variety of things—in new modes before the generation finishes. Airplanes for the thousand mile distances, trains for the 500 miles, and trucks for the 250. That's about the schedule."

\$20,000 FIRE IN DANBURY

Danbury, Conn., Oct. 25.—Fire started in the clothing store of P. B. Howell & Co. at the corner of Main and Liberty streets, early this morning, caused damage estimated at \$20,000. The principal damage was to the stock in the clothing store, the cigar factory of Edward C. Ginty, and the building which was owned by John H. Funtun. Nine members of the family of Edward L. Baldwin were carried down ladders from a third story window, their escape by stairs and fire escapes having been cut off by smoke. Three members of the family were ill with influenza.

EARTHQUAKE LASTS AN HOUR

Washington, Oct. 25.—An earthquake of moderate intensity and lasting almost an hour occurred during the night in some locality about 1,500 miles from Washington. Seismographs of Georgetown university this morning showed the shocks began at 11:47 p. m. and continued until 12:46 o'clock a. m. It was thought by Father Thord, director of the observatory, that the center of the disturbance probably was in the West Indies or Central America. There have been earthquakes in both these regions recently.

STONE LAID FOR EACH TRIBE

Palestine, Oct. 25.—The foundation stones of the Hebrew University at Jerusalem, recently laid in the presence of Gen. Allenby and representatives of the French and Italian detachments, are twelve in number: one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel. The site is on the summit of the Mount of Olives, facing Jerusalem on the one side and the Hills of Moab on the other.